

141: OPPORTUNITY



SKYBOUND

THE WALKING DEAD

KIRKMAN ADLARD GAUDIANO RATHBURN



AD 915

IMAGE COMICS PRESENTS

THE WALKING DEAD™

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Previously:

At Hilltop, Maggie builds a case against Gregory to determine if he should be allowed to live. Carl arrives at the Whisperers' camp to discover hundreds living there. Back at Alexandria, Olivia washes and grooms Negan... only to fail to lock his cell door when she leaves.

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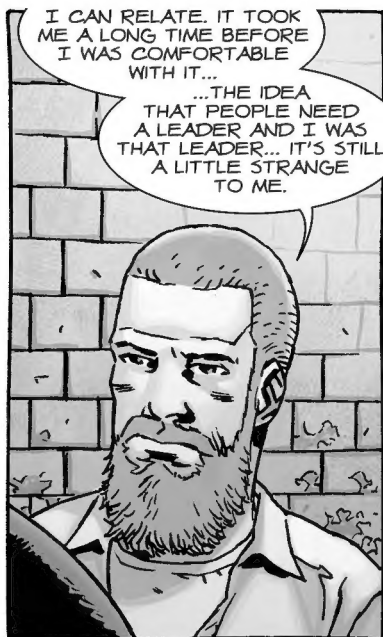
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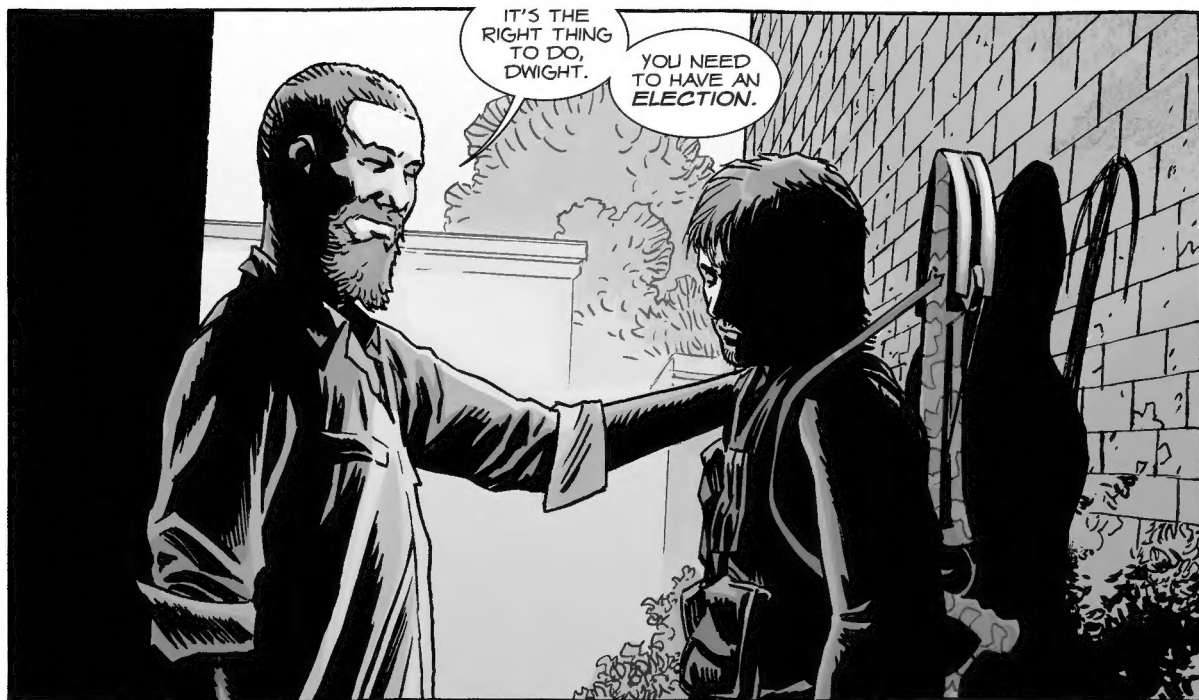
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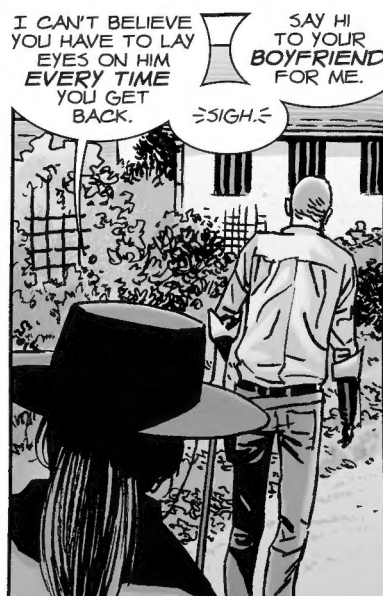
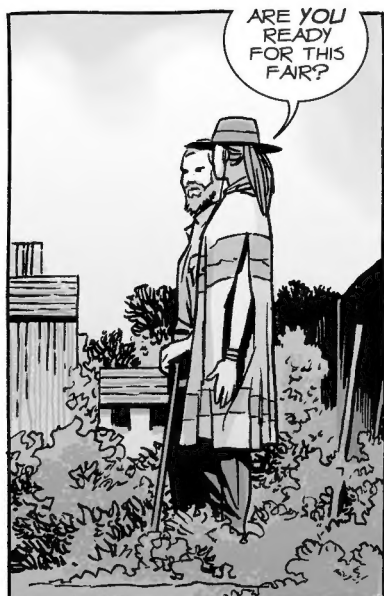
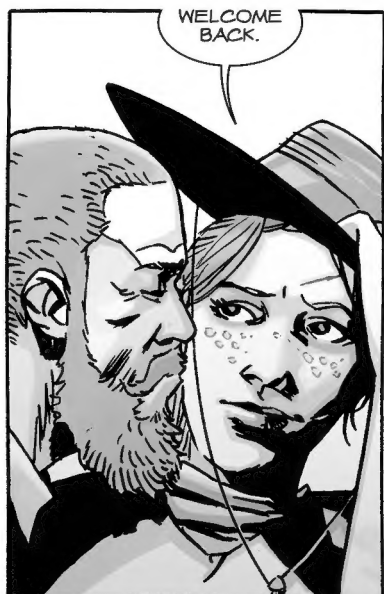
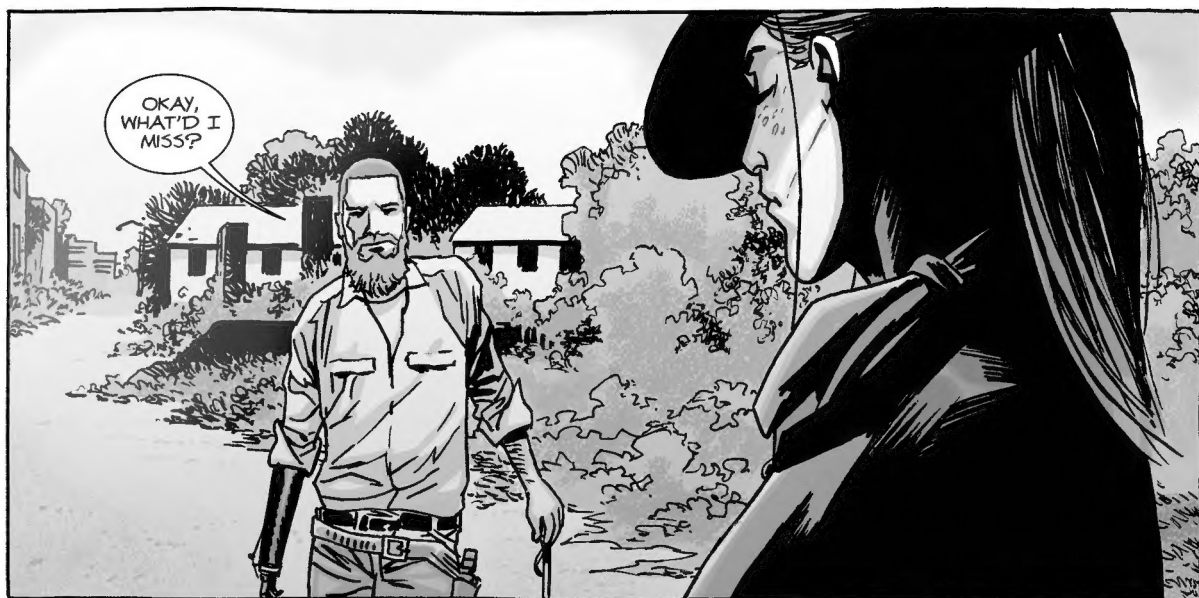














I TRUST
YOU'VE BEEN
TREATED
HUMANELY IN MY
ABSENCE?



WELCOME
HOME,
RICK.







THIS IS ABOUT BUILDING TRUST, RICK.

THIS IS THE CLOSEST I COULD EVER GET TO LETTING YOU FALL BACK INTO MY ARMS AT SOME KIND OF OFFICE RETREAT.



TRUST?



SOMEONE DIDN'T LOCK MY CAGE, I COULD HAVE WALKED THE FUCK OUT.

I DIDN'T.

TRUST.



YOU EXPECT ME TO TRUST YOU?



NO, GODDAMN IT. I EXPECT YOU TO BE SUSPICIOUS AS FUCK AND RUN AROUND CHECKING THIS WHOLE GODDAMN FUCKING TOWN FOR FUCKING BOOBY TRAPS AND SHIT.

HOW LONG HAVE I BEEN FREE? DID I KNOCK A FUCKING HOLE IN THE WALL AROUND THIS PLACE? DID I MESS WITH THE WIRES IN YOUR BASEMENT SO YOUR HOME WILL BURN DOWN TONIGHT WITH YOU IN IT?

DID I BRING OUT MY PERFECTLY NORMAL-SIZED WIENER AND FUCK ORGASMS INTO YOUR GIRL ANDREA UNTIL SHE ORDERED A T-SHIRT FROM THE NEGAN'S COCK FAN CLUB?!



KEEP
IT UP.



OH, QUIT TRYING TO
SHOW ME HOW **TOUGH**
YOU ARE. IT'S JUST
YOU AND ME DOWN
HERE. I REMEMBER
WHY YOU HAVE
THAT **FUCKING**
CANE.

DON'T
INTERRUPT ME.
I'M SURE I COULD
FUCK UP THE OTHER
LEG BEFORE YOU GOT
ENOUGH BULLETS IN
ME TO STOP ME.



I WON'T
DO THAT, THOUGH...
AND I **DIDN'T** DO
ALL THAT OTHER
FUCKING SHIT I JUST
MENTIONED. DO I
EXPECT YOU TO
TRUST ME?!

HELL
FUCKING
NO.

BUT WHEN
YOU FUCKING
FIND THE FUCK
OUT THAT I **DIDN'T**
FUCKING DO A
FUCKING THING
WHILE I WAS
FREE...

I FUCKING
EXPECT YOU TO
RECOGNIZE THAT...
SO WE CAN BEGIN
TO **BUILD TRUST**
BETWEEN US.



THAT WILL
NEVER
HAPPEN.



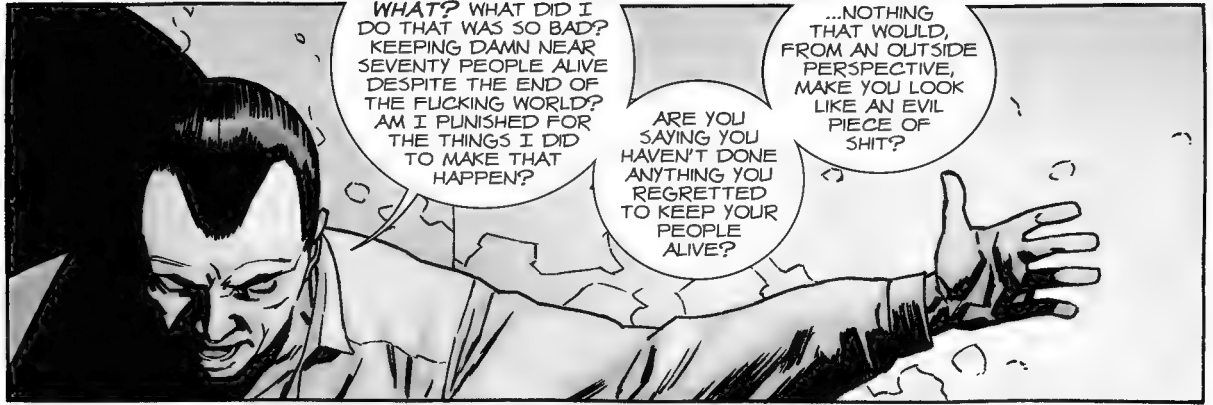
WHY?

WHY
THE HELL
NOT?!



ARE YOU
JOKING?

YOUR TIME
HERE HAS
IMPROVED
YOUR SENSE OF
HUMOR.



WHAT? WHAT DID I
DO THAT WAS SO BAD?
KEEPING DAMN NEAR
SEVENTY PEOPLE ALIVE
DESPITE THE END OF
THE FUCKING WORLD?
AM I PUNISHED FOR
THE THINGS I DID
TO MAKE THAT
HAPPEN?

ARE YOU
SAYING YOU
HAVEN'T DONE
ANYTHING YOU
REGRETTED
TO KEEP YOUR
PEOPLE
ALIVE?

...NOTHING
THAT WOULD,
FROM AN OUTSIDE
PERSPECTIVE,
MAKE YOU LOOK
LIKE AN EVIL
PIECE OF
SHIT?



I'M
DONE
WITH
THIS.



FINE...
LOCK
ME UP.

GO
FOR
IT.



CLICK.
CLACK.



YOU KEEP
ME LOCKED UP
HERE AS LONG
AS YOU FUCKING
WANT. FOREVER
IF YOU WANT.

I'M THE
TOUGHEST
MOTHERFUCKER
YOU'RE EVER GOING TO
MEET. I CAN TAKE IT.
HELL, I FUCKING LOVE IT.
I'M HAVING A GOOD TIME
HERE. NO NEED TO BOSS
PEOPLE AROUND... NO
FIGHTING FOR MY LIFE
AGAINST WALKING
CORPSES.

I
SHOULD BE
THANKING
YOU. WAIT!

THANK
YOU.
FROM THE
BOTTOM OF
MY FUCKING
HEART.
THANK
YOU.



BUT
RICK...



DON'T KID
YOURSELF INTO
THINKING YOU
KEEP ME LOCKED
UP HERE AS SOME
KIND OF SYMBOL
OF YOUR
MERCY.

YOU KNOW
THE REAL
REASON I'M
HERE!

WE BOTH
KNOW THAT'S
NOT TRUE.



I'M HERE BECAUSE AFTER
EVERYTHING YOU DID...
EVERYTHING YOU LIVED
THROUGH... I'M THE ONLY
THING YOU CAN USE TO
CONVINCE YOURSELF
YOU'RE A **GOOD**
PERSON.

AFTER
EVERYTHING
I DID... YOU
FUCKING LET
ME LIVE!

ME!

ONLY THE
GREATEST PERSON
ON EARTH WOULD DO
THAT! RICK GRIMES IS
THE GREATEST MAN
WHO EVER LIVED!



HE'S THE
GUY WHO'S
GOING TO
FIX EVERYTHING!
HE'S THE GUY
WHO'S GOING
TO SAVE THE
WORLD!

BECAUSE
HE'S THE MOST
CIVILIZED OF
ALL OF US!

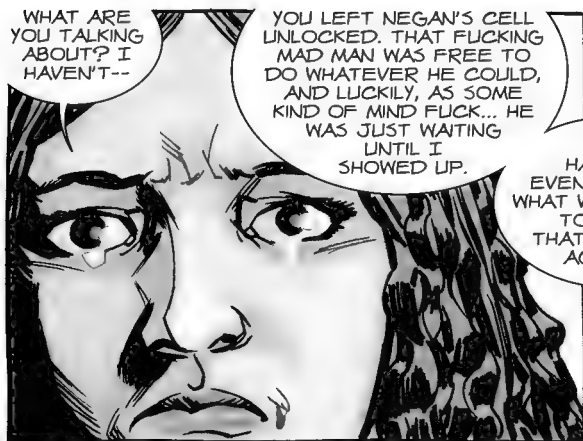
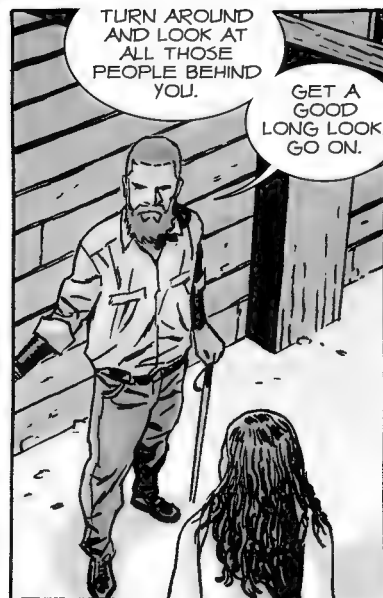


REMEMBER
THAT WHEN YOU'RE
SCREAMING AT
THAT POOR FAT
WOMAN WHO LEFT
MY CAGE UNLOCKED...
REMEMBER THAT
WHEN YOU THREATEN
TO EXILE HER...
THROW HER TO
THE WOLVES...

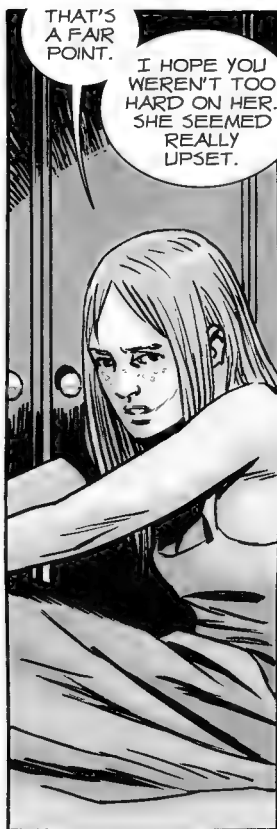
FOR
MAKING
A FUCKING
MISTAKE.

YOU
FUCKING
MONSTER!











WE
SHOULD
HAVE
KILLED
HIM.

AND
RICK... IT'S
NOT TOO
LATE.



...



YOU REALLY
STILL DON'T GET
IT? OR YOU GET
IT BUT YOU DON'T
BELIEVE ME?
HAVE YOU BEEN
OUTSIDE?

HAVE YOU
BEEN AROUND
THE PEOPLE
HERE? HAVE YOU
NOTICED HOW WELL
THINGS ARE
GOING FOR
US?

DON'T
TALK
DOWN
TO ME.



YOU'RE
RIGHT.
SORRY.

SORRY.



JUST
HEAR
ME OUT.
OKAY?

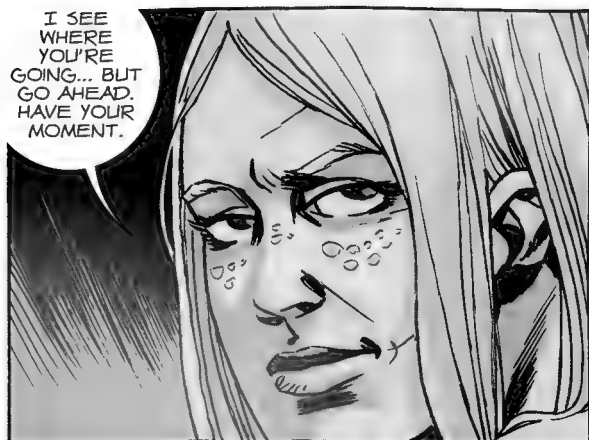
I'LL BE
NICE.



IF I'M GOING TO LEAD THESE PEOPLE... THEY NEED TO **RESPECT** ME. THEY NEED TO LOOK UP TO ME, THEY NEED TO SEE ME AS MORE **CAPABLE**... NOT BETTER... BUT MORE CAPABLE THAN THEY ARE.

TO A CERTAIN EXTENT. I'M WHAT HOLDS THIS PLACE TOGETHER.

KILLING NEGAN IS THE EXPECTED THING... KILLING NEGAN IS WHAT **EVERYONE** WANTS.



I SEE WHERE YOU'RE GOING... BUT GO AHEAD. HAVE YOUR MOMENT.



THANKS.

NOW WHO'S TALKING DOWN?



I'M THE ONE WHO DOESN'T KILL. I'M THE ONE WHO SAYS THERE'S A BETTER WAY... AND THAT, I THINK, MAKES ME A LEADER. I'M DOING THE **RIGHT** THING... INSTEAD OF THE **EASY** THING.

BUT MORE THAN THAT... I'M SHOWING THEM THAT WE'RE BETTER THAN OUR EMOTIONS... WE'RE MORE THAN OUR RAGE AND FURY... OUR ANGER AND HATRED.

WE'RE CIVILIZED PEOPLE.



IF WE EVER LOSE THAT... IF WE EVER GO BACK TO HOW IT WAS BEFORE... KILL TO SURVIVE... ALL THAT...

...THAT'S WHEN ALL THIS STARTS TO FALL APART.





LETTER HACKS

WRITE TO US AT:

WALKINGDEAD@SKYBOUND.COM

Oh man, are we in a crazy stretch of THE WALKING DEAD. The end of this issue, the end of next issue, the end of the issue after THAT... whooo boy... you all are in for a treat.

Don't spoil things for the people, Sean! But yes... very cool things ahead. Let's get into the letters before you give it all away.

Dear Kirkman & Co.

You put me on a roller coaster of emotion in issue 139. The first freaking page! Walker heads are flying! We see the katana! (Which should have a name by the way. Or maybe it does and I don't know about it)

I could practically hear the combined disappointed sighs of the comic community around the world on Wednesday as they turn to the second page and see Ezekiel wielding the katana.

Heh, heh.

Not to say I don't like Ezekiel. He's cool. Not as cool as Shiva, but cool. But we wanted Michonne. And you knew that, you bastard.

Then a few pages later you give her to us. And, let me say, you made up for that tease.

MICHONNE IS A F*CKING PIRATE.

You found a way to make Michonne cooler. I applaud you Kirkman, and you too, Charlie. But not you Sean.

Yours in alliance,

Johnny

I don't deserve any credit, Johnny! You're not gonna ruin my day!

Yeah, I was going to argue that she wasn't a pirate, but really there's not any way around it. She's on the boat, she has the look... okay, she's a pirate. But Sean definitely deserves no credit... Stefano, on the other hand...

Hey Robert and Sean,

I have a question about Negan that has plagued my mind for about 791 days. In issue 108,

Negan is show kicking the ass out of someone in ping-pong. I was wondering if Negan was doing so well because he is actually skilled at ping-pong, or if his opponents just let Negan win because they are scared of him.

Thanks for reading.

M. Nolan
Ontario, Canada

Since Ping-Pong is one of the last recreational activities to survive the apocalypse (at least in these parts), I think he's just become really good at it. (You can get really good at anything if it's the only thing left to do...) And he probably wouldn't dig it if people were taking it easy on him... because he's an ultra-competitive dick.

Negan would be super angry if he found out people were letting him win. They'd never risk that.

Dear Robert and TWD team,

Just read issue 139 and I am SO RELIEVED that Michonne is back!!! Angst fest all around! I like the concept of sea travel, and the fishing trips they are being taken! Will the communities ever set up fisheries or fish farms so that they won't have to take long trips out to sea? Will we ever 'sea' some sea travel in the comics in time? That'd be rad! Love the comic and love you all for all the great work!

Forever a Dead-Head!
Andrew Tiscareno
El Paso, Texas

We'll definitely be seeing some sea travel sooner than you think.

Avast ye Scallywags!

Michonne is back, on a boat and kinda looks like a pirate. Mystery solved! So, I know that doing this could essentially end the comic for good...but why hasn't anyone considered sending a small group to an island, clearing it of walkers then relocating everyone there for good? Or at least relocating on the island long enough for the walkers on the mainland to wither and die. If the group is looking for a safe place free of the threat of walkers and evil

humans, wouldn't an island miles from the coast be the best place? Maybe I should be leading these fools...

Jared
Gainesville, FL

It's a solid defense, but does it have the natural resources (fresh water, arable land, etc.) to sustain a moderately sized population? If an infection occurs, wouldn't it spread quicker? I don't know. It sounds as problematic as any other solution.

Right, and they're actually getting along pretty nicely on their own now. So unless something terrible happens to shake things up (uh-oh), then they wouldn't really feel the need to locate to a safer place.

Dear Kirkman and Co.,

I absolutely love all your work, so thanks for that! Being that I don't have any major complaints about the series I'll vent a small one that's been buggin' me for a while now. Jesus' top knot? Really? Haha I know it seems somewhat trivial, but Jesus is such a bad ass character that it's hard to swallow seeing him rock a hipster hair style. He wore his hair down for so long and whooped plenty off ass without it obstructing his vision so I don't think that's it. Oh well, if the worst thing I have to deal with is a crappy hairstyle (though I'm noticing a trend after Carl's emo tear catcher) then I you guys are Doug better than most give us credit for. Thanks!

Sean from Los Angeles

Bah... it's more samurai inspired than anything. Or maybe like some really cool Brazilian guy that plays soccer and you don't want him talking to your girl at a party and you've always got to keep your eye on him. Regardless, you make the decision to grow your hair that long, you're gonna do some crazy, questionable shit with it.

Also, when we introduced it, he was going out to deal with a herd, knowing he could be surrounded by hundreds of zombies. He wouldn't want to give them anything to grab onto if he could help it. And maybe he liked it. Doesn't it look cool? I'm growing my hair out right now. I'm hoping I'll be able to have a top knot by Comic-Con.

I don't know how things work in your Zombie world, but Seriously Robert Kirkman, put a couple fresh fish in your fridge and see how they smell after a week or four. How long has Michonne been out on that boat??? collecting a "haul" of fish?? and what do you think that boat even SMELLS like after it rolls back into harbor, with fish rotting in it's hull as she then chooses the moment to reflect on her relationships instead of unloading a rapidly decaying cargo? Have they been around Zombies so long they don't even notice? Do they smoke the fish? do they sun dry? is the boat all lopsided from them being in Buckets? Does that junker have a fridge? Is it a metaphorical plot device I've spent far too much time thinking about? Better yet Will it bring a flotilla of zombie Skin wearing or cannibalistic pirate boats following them? Whatever, but if you ever invite to a barbecue at your place, I now

have serious food safety issues and will bring my own Box of Veggie burgers.

I'm aware that fish will die and rot. They kept that from happening on the boat.

The ominous line "Should Andrea Be worried", Yes, there's an anniversary issue coming up, everyone in the whole comic should be worried!!! Lull before the storm !!

Lull?! We'll show you a fucking lull these next couple of issues, Ken!

Will Negan escape? Will he resume HIS role as "THE ALPHA" and knock out the other one? Will he obviously have to live long enough to meet up with Carl and hilariously congratulate him on losing his virginity? Has Walking Dead turned this whole thing, briefly into one seriously demented 80's teen movie? Or will "Horror Movie Rules" win out ? and sex is met with, well, Swift and merciless Anniversary issue ratings shattering death? Whatever the case, the silent Maggie panel after The " first piece of Ass..it'll make you do crazy shit" line was another classic of TWD comedy gold. Simple, but absolutely hilarious.

KEN/ SAN FRANCISCO

Oh, is issue 150 coming up? I hadn't noticed.

Greetings from Australia!

So there goes season 5 of AMC's The Walking Dead, eh? I must ask, where the heck is Heath or Denise? Seriously, I haven't seen them all!!! season!! Now onto the video game by TellTale, got any secrets willing to tell us about Season 3, hm? Spill the beans, dude!

There should be more news in the near future. Probably from a stage in San Diego.

It'd be pretty lame if we didn't have Heath or Denise in the show, wouldn't it?

Now this has been bothering me for a while, do you know if Carl will lose an eye in the TV series? It's really been itching me to know. Thanks for answering Robert, you amazing sonofabitch!

From Will

You'll just have to watch and find out! Season 6 starts in a few short months!

Next month we take down Gregory's corpse and have not one, but TWO issues for you. Who loves ya?

-Sean Mackiewicz

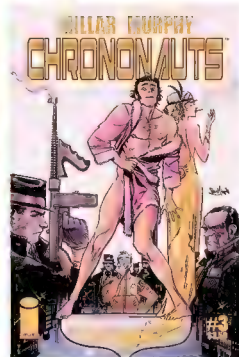
Spoilers, Sean! Jeez! Two issues again?! That's insane! Why... that would mean our big COMPENDIUM VOLUME THREE will be in stores in... OCTOBER just in time for Season 6 of the TV show! (And just a reminder, FEAR THE WALKING DEAD's six episode first season will air BEFORE then!) Fun times. See you back here next issue!

-Robert Kirkman

DON'T MISS THE NEXT ISSUE!



BIRTHRIGHT #7
ON SALE NOW



CHRONONAUTS #3
ON SALE NOW



INJECTION #1
ON SALE NOW

THE WALKING DEAD #142
ON SALE JUNE 2015

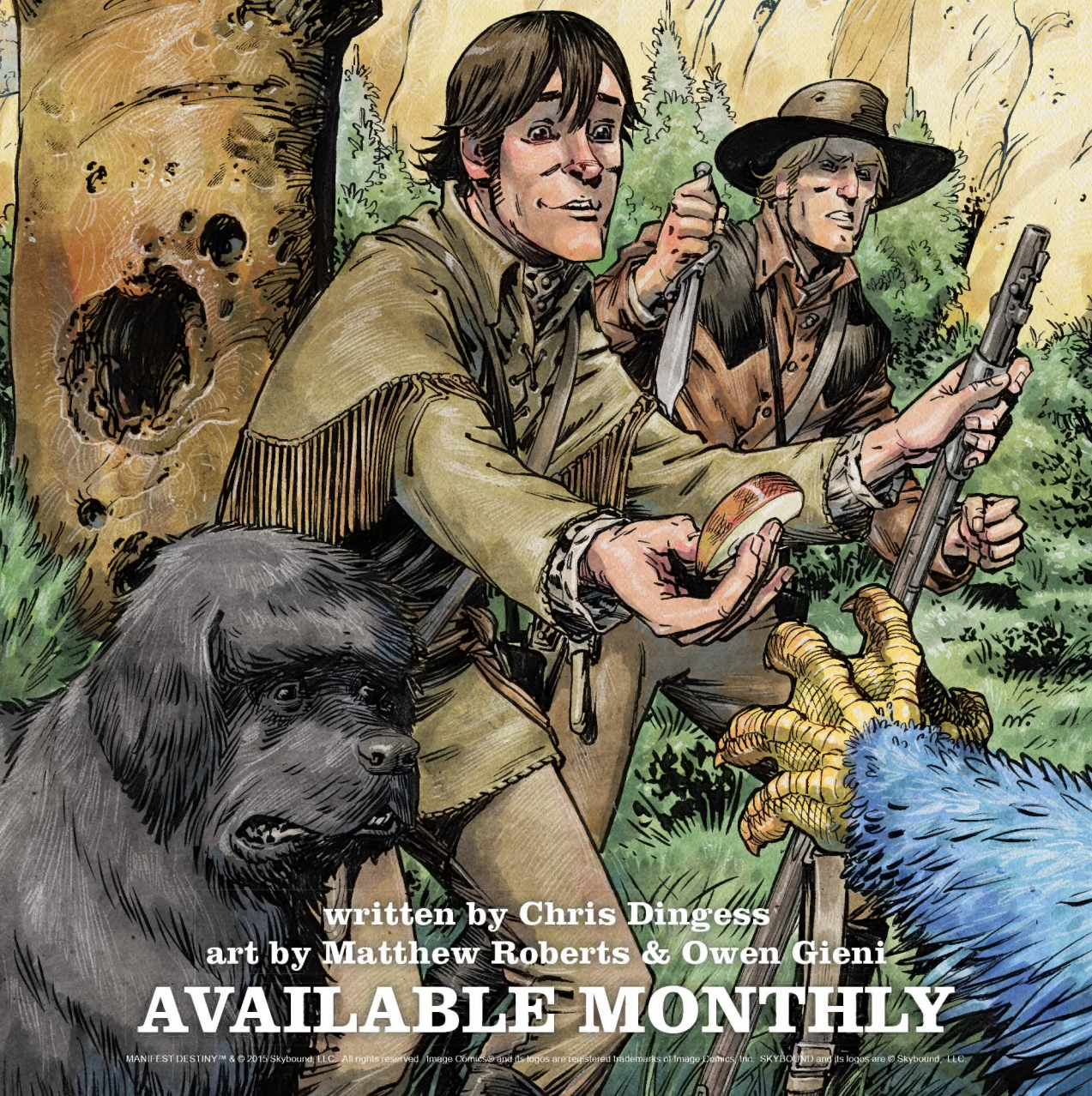


Discover the New World
alongside Lewis and Clark...
and the monstrous American frontier
the history books left out!

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BRIAN BUCCELLATO

TONI INFANTE

SONS OF THE DEVIL

“The sins of
the father are
to be laid upon
the children.”

—Shakespeare

MAY 2015



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THE WORLD HAS BEEN POISONED TO DEATH



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FROM THE CREATORS OF MOON KNIGHT: FROM THE DEAD

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